

ARE PRESSING
THE ADVANTAGE

British Artillery Is Active at Various Points on Some Front

AND HAND-TO-HAND
BATTLES FREQUENT

Germans Are Using Many Gas and Tear Shells to Check Advance

London, July 27.—"Throughout the night our artillery had been active and we continued to press the enemy with hand to hand encounters at various points," says the official British statement. It goes on to say that the enemy is using a large number of gas and tear shells in the battle area. Elsewhere on the British front there was no incident of importance in the last forty-eight hours.

AUSTRIANS ADMIT
THEIR RETREAT
NORTH OF BRODY

Army Headquarters Tells of Withdrawal Before Superior Russian Pressure in Northeastern Galicia.

Berlin, July 27.—The Austrian withdrawal before superior Russian pressure north of Brody in northeastern Galicia was announced to-day by the Hungarian army headquarters.

GERMANY CLAIMS
ALL ATTACKS FAILED

The British Turned Back Near Pozieres, the French in the Verdun Region and Russians on Schitshara River.

Berlin, July 27.—British hand grenade attacks against German lines west of Pozieres were repulsed yesterday, says the German army headquarters. In the Verdun region several French attacks were carried out but were repulsed. The fighting continues at some points. The Russians made a futile storming attack against the German position on the Schitshara river.

KAISER DOWNCAST
OVER HIS FAILURE
TO WIN THE WAR

Premier Morris of Newfoundland, Who Has Just Returned from the Somme Front, Declares Emperor and His Staff Realize Germany Has Lost the Game.

Paris, July 27.—Sir Edward Morris, Newfoundland premier, in an interview upon his return from the Somme front, declared that German prisoners said: "The emperor and his staff realize that Germany has lost the game. The war is virtually finished."

FOUR NORWEGIAN
SHIPS ARE SUNK

German Submarines Have Started Relentless War Against Timber-laden Vessels in the North Sea.

London, July 27.—German submarines have started a relentless war against timber-laden vessels in the North sea. Four Norwegian ships were reported sunk to-day.

6,000 MORE TEUTONS
RUSSIA'S PRISONERS

In Battle Tuesday the Russian Forces On Their Western Front Won Victory —In the Caucasus the Pursuit of the Turks Is Being Kept Up.

Petrograd, July 27.—In the battle Tuesday on the Russian western front 6,000 Teutons were taken prisoners, says the official statement by the Russian war office. The Russian forces operating in the Caucasus are continuing their pursuit of the retreating Turks. The statement says that in the Turkish fortress of Erzincan the Russians took a depot of war materials.

GERMAN AIRSHIP
ATTACKED BASE
FOR SUBMARINES

Bombarded Russian and British Headquarters and, Although Shelled, Returned Undamaged.

Berlin, July 27.—A German naval airship on July 25 attacked the main base for the Russian and British submarines at Marihamm, the German admiralty announces. The airship bombarded the port successfully and although she was shelled she returned undamaged.

WANTED TO KEEP POZIERES

Germans Had Been Told to Fight Hard For It.

London, July 27.—The secretary for war, David Lloyd George, in a published statement last night, shows the impor-

tance the Germans attached to the retention of Pozieres by quoting from a German divisional order issued in Contalmaison on July 11, as follows:

"Furthermore, the conversion of villages into strong points is of the greatest importance. Such villages are Pozieres, Contalmaison, the two Bizantins and Longueval."

Secretary Lloyd George points out that with the capture of Pozieres the last of these villages has fallen into the allies' hands. He further points out that yesterday's German claim of the repulse of an attack on Trones wood must be a clerical error, as Trones wood has been in British possession since July 14.

The opinion of the military critics in London is that no position so strong as the one the British are now successfully attacking will be found between Pozieres and Bapaume, otherwise, they argue, the Germans would not have risked bringing troops and guns from the Verdun sector to defend Pozieres and it is inferred from indications in the official despatches that the British are already beginning to establish themselves on both sides of the road from Pozieres to Bapaume.

SCIENCE ROBS DENTAL
CHAIRS OF TERRORS

And It Has Also Deprived the Professional Humorist of a Good Piece of Stock in Trade, Says Dr.

Richard H. Riethmuller.

Louisville, Ky., July 27.—How science has robbed the dental chair of its terrors and the professional humorist of a good piece of stock in trade, was described to-day by Dr. Richard Riethmuller, of Philadelphia, and member of the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania, in his address "Inter-Ora Methods of Local Anesthesia," before the Interstate Association of Anesthetists holding session in connection with the annual convention of the National Dental Association. The method described by Dr. Riethmuller is known as "Conductive Anesthesia," and he recommended it as being vastly superior to other methods.

"Under this method of anesthesia—no nerve deadening," said Dr. Riethmuller, "a single injection of a drug into, for instance, the lower jaw will render insensible to pain the hard as well as the soft tissues, including the bone, and eight teeth on one side of the mouth, and it would be possible to remove all the teeth or to remove part of the jaw some time without any pain whatsoever and with the patient fully conscious all the time."

Dr. Riethmuller said that advantages claimed for this method are: "absolute painlessness; full consciousness of the patient, and absence of hemorrhages during operation, even if it be of a surgical nature."

"The drug used in this method of painless dentistry is novocain," he continued. "It is about one-tenth as toxic as cocaine, is non-habit forming and can be easily sterilized by boiling. It produces complete insensibility of the hard and soft tissues of the mouth without any detrimental after-effects whatever."

"A highly important feature of this method, is that, by its use, it is possible to obtain complete asepsis—or absence of pus forming bacteria—of the anesthetic solution itself, and of the instruments used, and of the part where the injection is made. The injection is made at certain selected spots, and the patient feels no pain whatever from the injection, and one injection produces complete lack of sensation in several teeth at once."

Dr. Riethmuller told his audience that it was the aim of this method to eliminate pain and shock from all dental operations, no matter how apparently trifling in kind or degree, and to thus rob dental operations of the fear of them which is entertained by a great many people. The duration of the anesthesia is sufficiently long to allow first healing processes to take place without pain, and, consequently, there is no distressing after-effect.

By means of lantern slides and motion pictures made especially for the lecture, Dr. Riethmuller explained the intimate knowledge and appreciation of pharmacology and the physiological action of novocain-suprarenin, asepsis, histology and anatomy that are required in this method of anesthesia and showed the technique of injections for such oral-surgical operations as extractions, resection of root ends, and curetment of diseased bone.

CASEMENT CASE
MAY BE RE-OPENED

Five Judges Who Heard the Appeal Will Sit To-morrow to Hear a Possible Application in Behalf of the Convicted Man.

London, July 27.—Justice Darling announced to-day that the five judges who heard the appeal of Roger Casement against the sentence of death on the charge of high treason would sit to-morrow to hear a possible application on behalf of the convicted man. The nature of the application was not disclosed.

A news agency says that a public execution of Casement is improbable. Some authorities declare that executions for crimes except murder must be public.

EXPULSED FROM HOUSE

Laurence Ginnell Was Accused of Disorderly Conduct.

London, July 27.—Laurence Ginnell, a Nationalist member of Parliament, has been suspended from the sitting of the House of Commons, according to the Exchange Telegraph company, for disorderly conduct. He at first refused to leave. The sitting was suspended. Later he withdrew when attendants approached, and the sitting was resumed.

AN EASY WINNER

Mabel Trask, Driven By Cox, Won \$10,000 Stake at Detroit.

Detroit, July 27.—Mabel Trask, owned and driven by Walter Cox of Dover, N. H., had little trouble in winning the historic Merchants and Manufacturers' \$10,000 stake here yesterday afternoon. None of the other contestants seemed to be able to give the New Hampshire man anything like an argument.

STILL SWINGS
AT HER PIER

Although Deutschland Has Secured Her Clearance Papers

NO ACTIVITY TO-DAY
TO PRESAGE LEAVING

German Consul Declares Boat Will Not Leave For a Week

Baltimore, Md., July 27.—If Captain Paul Koenig of the Deutschland plans to start to-day on his return voyage, there was nothing going on at the pier that was any more indicative of his departure than has been the case for the last few days. German consul Carl A. Leudert said the Deutschland will not leave for a week.

The Deutschland was cleared yesterday by her commander, Captain Koenig, for Bremen or any other port in Germany. After the usual clearance formalities, the commander of the submarine requested that his manifest, which he had filed, be withheld from publication "for a reasonable time." Collector of the Port Ryan communicated with the treasury department at Washington and then informed Captain Koenig that his request be granted. Consequently, the cargo was described officially as being composed of general merchandise.

U. S. WARSHIPS
ARE PATROLLING
FOR NEUTRALITY

Are Watching Allied Ships, Which Are in Turn Watching for Arrival of the Bremen or the Departure of the Deutschland.

Norfolk, July 27.—The armored cruiser North Carolina and three destroyers, near the allied warships patrol, worked slowly up and down close to an English cruiser. A Beaufort, N. C., dispatch says that two allied warships are patrolling off Beaufort Inlet following reports that the Bremen is headed this way.

ANXIOUS TO GET MARRIED

Called Knot-Tying Justice Out Ahead of Time.

Brattleboro, July 27.—Justice Carl S. Hopkins was called out of bed by telephone at 5 o'clock yesterday by Louis H. Dearborn of Nashua, N. H., who said he and Miss Myrtle M. Jelley of the same city had been waiting in the Brooks house parlor since 2 o'clock and very much wished he would come to his office and issue them a marriage license. He apologized for making such an early call but had waited what seemed to be a long time.

Justice Hopkins consented to advance his opening time two hours, so at 7 o'clock the couple met him at his office and were given a license after the young man had shown the justice a written permit from his mother, he being only 18 years old. He gave his occupation as a chemist. The couple were married at once by Rev. Richard H. Clapp. They arrived here on a night train and asked Police Chief George Wilson where to go, and he advised them to wait in the hotel parlor until daylight.

BANK OFFICIALS
ARE ACCUSED
OF BIG FRAUD

Edward Hatch and Thomas Byrnes Are Sought at Orange, N. J., Charged with Conspiracy to Defraud Bank of \$30,000.

Newark, N. J., July 27.—Warrants for the arrest of Edward Hatch, vice-president of the Mutual Trust company of Orange, which was closed Monday by the banking commission, and for Thomas Byrnes, secretary-treasurer, have been issued. They are charged with conspiracy to defraud the bank of \$30,000.

WILSON URGES ADOPTION
By the House of the Senate Naval Bill—Calls in Democrats.

Washington, July 27.—The president to-day urged the ranking Democratic members of the House to have the House adopt the Senate naval bill. Padgett is understood to have told the president that there would be opposition to the enlarged building programme.

2,445,664 MOTOR VEHICLES

Were Registered in the United States Last Year.

Washington, July 27.—Motor vehicles registered in the United States for last year numbered 2,445,664 says the public roads office. They averaged one for every 44 persons.

U. S. NOTE CABLED

Protest to England Over Blacklisting of American Firms.

Washington, July 27.—The note to England objecting to the blacklisting of American business firms as an invasion of neutral rights has been cabled to London by the state department.

CAUTION IS URGED

Against Putting Faith in Preparations for Infantile Paralysis.

Washington, July 27.—Warning has been issued to the public by the agricultural department to look with extreme suspicion upon any preparation put on the market as being effective for treatment of infantile paralysis.

BELIEVE INJURIES
DUE TO A HORSE

Officials Think Roy Wells Was Kicked in the Head—Young Man Died Yesterday at Hospital in St. Johnsbury.

St. Johnsbury, July 27.—An autopsy performed yesterday over the body of Roy Wells, who was admitted to Bright-hospital from Orleans Tuesday night and who died yesterday morning showed that he died of a blood clot in the pulmonary artery. Wells was found Tuesday in his wagon between Orleans and Exbury. He was unconscious and an examination disclosed a fractured skull. At first foul play was feared, but at the autopsy it developed that the injury might have been caused by the kick of a horse, and as the animal he drove was known to be vicious, this theory has been generally accepted. The autopsy was conducted by Dr. H. F. Stone and Dr. C. F. Whitney of the state laboratory of hygiene, assisted by Dr. J. M. Allen. State's Attorney Aaron Grout of Newport attended, and while he is satisfied with the doctor's findings, he will continue the investigation. Wells was 21 years old and leaves eight brothers and three sisters. The body was taken to Orleans last night for burial.

BOY SOON DIED.

William Siegfried Was in Automobile Which Was Struck by Train.

Burlington, July 27.—William Siegfried, the 15-year-old son of George J. Siegfried of Essex Junction, who was injured yesterday forenoon when a train ran into the Essex steam laundry delivery automobile on a crossing, died at the Mary Fletcher hospital at 1:20 yesterday afternoon. One arm was almost wrenched off in the accident, there were a dozen other fractures and internal injuries, with the loss of blood, caused his death. The boy was a member of the Methodist church at Essex Junction. His father left only last Friday for the Mexican front and William, the oldest son, was to be the man of the family during his father's absence. There are eight other children.

Fred Rushford, who was driving the auto, had his collar bone and left leg broken and is in a serious condition at the hospital. The delivery car was reduced to scrap iron, the road bed of the railroad was torn for a distance of 800 feet and 15 baskets of clothes were strewn along the tracks.

INTOXICATED MOTORISTS FINED

They Were in Enosburg Falls, But They Didn't Know It.

Enosburg Falls, July 27.—Deputy Sheriff A. J. Croft was notified Sunday afternoon that an automobile party in an apparent stage of intoxication was on the streets of the village. They were arrested on Church street, their machine being on the sidewalk. Not one of the party knew where he was, it is said, some thinking they were in St. Albans and others insisting they were in Canada. They were taken to their homes in Sheldon Springs and held to appear in court Monday evening. All pleaded guilty to intoxication. John Swanson, the chauffeur, was fined \$10 and costs of \$6.45 for operating a car while intoxicated. G. W. Bortell, R. E. Bramhall and John Silvestro were each fined \$5 and costs, amounting in each case to \$11.45, which they arranged to pay.

NEW INSURANCE COMPANY

Green Mountain Mutual Fire Insurance Co. Gets Certificate.

Insurance Commissioner Guy W. Bailey and Walter F. Scott have issued a certificate to the Green Mountain Mutual Fire Insurance company, following a hearing held at Montpelier on July 3. The certificate is granted under act 168 of the acts of Vermont, 1915. The guarantee fund must be not less than \$50,000 and not more than \$200,000. The shares are \$50 each.

The signers of the papers are Robert W. Simonds of St. Johnsbury, Benjamin Gates of Montpelier, Stanley C. Wilson of Chelsea, George L. Blanchard, J. G. Brown, H. M. Jones, James M. Boutwell and F. E. Lowe of Montpelier, H. E. Parker of Bradford, J. W. Fowler of Manchester Depot, F. A. Field of Rutland, S. S. Howard of Burlington, F. C. Williams of Newport, B. J. Mulachy of Hardwick, S. A. Daniels and H. G. Barber of Brattleboro.

MOUNTAIN P. O. ROBBED.

Burglars Got Several Hundred Dollars at Twin Mountain, N. H.

Twin Mountain, N. H., July 27.—The postoffice at Twin Mountain was broken open at an early hour yesterday morning and the safe blown open with nitroglycerin. Postmaster J. P. Wright has not yet been able to determine his exact loss in currency, stamps and registered mail, but it is said that it will reach a total of several hundred dollars.

It is thought the thieves traveled in an automobile as several claim to have heard a car between 1 and 2 a. m. and they are thought to be the same gang who broke into the Franconia postoffice a few weeks ago.

Last year they worked the postoffices at Dalton and North Stratford and the preceding season in Jefferson. No clew has yet been found to aid the authorities in tracing the gang.

DOZEN CARS DERAILED.

But No One Was Hurt in Freight Wreck Near East Putney.

Brattleboro, July 27.—Twelve cars of a northbound Central Vermont freight train that left Brattleboro about 6:30 last night, were derailed a mile and a half north of East Putney, completely tying up traffic. The southbound passenger due here at 8:20 o'clock was sent around through Keene, N. H. No one was injured.

WHEAT PRICES JUMP

On Report from Northwest of the Damage By Storm.

Chicago, July 27.—Wheat prices jumped four and a half cents on the crop damage reports from the Northwest.

CAR MOVING
MAKES RIOTS

And All New York May Be Tied Up in Big Strike

DISORDERS BREAK
OUT IN THE BRONX

In Yonkers, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle No Cars Were Moved

New York, July 27.—Upon the arrival of President Mahon of the street railway employees' union to-day, motormen and conductors of all street railways in the city may be asked to join the trolley strike which has tied up the lines in the Bronx and Westchester county. Attempts to resume operations in Bronx have resulted in disorders. No cars moved to-day in Yonkers, Mount Vernon or New Rochelle.

The strike was extended to the surface lines of the Bronx yesterday and all surface cars in that borough north of 129th street were ordered to the barns at 8 o'clock last night by Edward A. Maher, general manager of the Union Railroad company, which operates the lines of the Bronx. Railroad officials explained that this was due to protect the men who refused to obey the strike order, as numerous threats of violence had been received.

Union leaders claimed that more than 1,000 carmen in the Bronx responded to the strike order, while Mr. Maher declared not more than 500 had walked out. During the evening rush hours, however, it was said that only one line in the Bronx was operating cars anywhere near schedule.

One hundred strikers armed with bricks last night attacked a car in the Bronx, smashing nearly every window and demolishing part of the woodwork. There were no passengers on the car. The motorman and conductor took shelter inside and were not injured. Police reserves dispersed the rioters, arresting three of them.

CENTRAL VERMONT
MAY OPERATE
ITS STEAMERS

Not Only Between New York and New London, But It May Also Install Similar Service Between New York and Providence.

Washington July 27.—Authority has been given the Central Vermont railway by the interstate commerce commission to continue the operation of steamers between New York and New London and to install similar service between New York and Providence.

R. F. D. CARRIERS MEET

12th Annual State Convention Meeting in Vergennes.

Vergennes, July 27.—The Vermont Rural Carriers' association is holding its 12th annual state convention in this city. The meetings are being held at the chapel of the Vermont industrial school, the first session opening yesterday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock.

Mayors C. E. Stebbins welcomed the visitors to the city, E. N. Knapp, vice-president of the association, of Irasburg responding. Following a piano solo by Mrs. W. S. Boardman, the state president, E. H. Sargent of East Thetford was introduced by County President O. H. Plain of Bristol, and gave an interesting address. At the close committees were appointed. After music by Miss Hazel Huffmire of Rutland, James E. Burke, postmaster at Burlington, addressed the audience.

Delegates to the national convention, E. H. Sargent, F. H. Huffmire and B. L. Osgood gave interesting accounts of the convention, the city in which it was held, and the trip.

Supt. J. N. Bars of the Vermont industrial school was the last speaker, after which the delegates and invited guests were Mr. Bars' guests at a luncheon at the school. The party left about 5 o'clock for a boat ride down Otter Creek and on Lake Champlain, returning here shortly before the evening session at 7:30.

The state industrial school band gave a concert outside the chapel at 7:30, after which the following program was carried out in the chapel: Address, Judge Frank L. Fish of Vergennes; recitation, "Bobby Shafto," Miss Mary E. Carpenter; address, "Good Enough for the Traffic Roads," Horatio S. Earle, Detroit, Mich.; character sketch, George C. Ross; reading, Miss Hazel Huffmire.

MRS. C. A. BARTLETT'S FUNERAL

Was Held from Universalist Church, Rev. J. B. Reardon Officiating.

The funeral of Mrs. Lena B. Bartlett of Summer street, wife of Clarence A. Bartlett, whose death occurred early Tuesday morning, was held in the Universalist church at 2 o'clock this afternoon, the pastor, Rev. J. B. Reardon, officiating. Previously a brief prayer service was held in the mortuary chapel at the Perry & Noonan undertaking establishment in Depot square. The bearers were: John Emslie, Arthur L. Pierce, Frank Cutler and James Little. Members of the Queen of the Forest circle and the clerks' union, to which organizations the deceased belonged, were largely represented. There was a profuse floral tribute. Interment was made in the family lot in Elmwood cemetery.

Miss Arabella Eugenia Smith, author of "If I Should Die To-night" and other poems and prose, died Monday at Santa Barbara, Cal., at the age of 71 years.

OTIS WILLIAMS
CONVICTED IN
SECOND DEGREEGOT ACQUAINTED
WITH CHELSEA PEOPLE

Barre Board of Trade and Ladies Motored to the Pretty Orange County Town and Spent a Most Enjoyable Evening.

The second of the "better acquaintance" tours organized by the Barre Board of Trade was held last evening, Chelsea being the destination of thirty or more cars carrying nearly 175 people. The mutual pleasure of the Marshfield trip was repeated, and those who participated from Barre are looking forward eagerly to the third of the tours.

The Barre party left the city about 6 o'clock and motored leisurely up the heights of Washington and thence down the valley to the attractive little village of Chelsea, where marked hospitality was awaiting them. The cars were parked on one of the village squares and the visitors divested themselves of as much dust as possible before going to the town hall where supper was served under the direction of the Ten Pin club, an organization of Chelsea women, numbering twenty members. The town hall was crowded with people, the Chelsea people joining in and making a grand total of about 300 jolly diners.

The hostesses had prepared a very appetizing menu, which was much appreciated by all. Before the service of the meal began Carroll's orchestra of Barre played and they kept it up at frequent intervals during the supper. The supper was preceded by prayer by Rev. Robert Haseltine, pastor of the Methodist church at Chelsea.

At the close of the supper Attorney Stanley C. Wilson rapped for order and spoke for a few minutes in behalf of the Ten Pin club, stating their appreciation of the opportunity to entertain the people from Barre and hoping that the two communities would both benefit by the visit. He was followed by H. G. Woodruff, who recapitulated the cordial spirit of the previous speaker and then announced that a series of stereoscopic views of Barre and of Barre granite industry would be thrown on the screen. The screen had been placed on the National bank building and the pictures were displayed very clearly. In the meantime the Barre Citizens' band gave a concert program and skyrockets sent their lurid glare against the sky.

It was about 10:30 o'clock when the Barre machines were turned in the direction of home and the return run was made in good time and under conditions that were ideal, barring perhaps a tendency to dust-raising. The Barre people expressed their pleasure over the visit in an unmistakable manner.

STEPPED ON HOT COALS.

No. Clarendon Infant May Become Crippled Because of Burns.

Rutland, July 27.—Kenneth, the 18-month-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Pitts of North Clarendon, was seriously burned yesterday when he stepped onto some hot wood coals, which had been carelessly thrown into the yard of the Pitts home. One foot was badly burned and it is possible the child may be crippled for life.

Mr. Pitts, who runs a milk route in this city was in Rutland and Mrs. Pitts, with the assistance of a young boy, was moving the kitchen stove from one room to another. She had first taken the hot coals and emptied them out onto the ground in the back yard.

Kenneth was toddling around the yard and not realizing the danger walked onto the coals. His cries attracted the attention of his mother, who found the youngster standing on the burning embers, not knowing enough to move out of the danger.

NATIVE OF AUSTRIA.

John Giacomuzzi Died This Morning After Five Months' Illness.

John Giacomuzzi, a Barre granite cutter, well known among the Italian people of this city, passed away at his home, 12 Addison place, this morning at 7 o'clock, death following an illness of five months. The deceased is survived by his wife and two children, Anna and Floravanti, a daughter and a son. He also leaves two brothers, Battista Giacomuzzi of Milford, Mass., and a brother living in France; also a sister, Mrs. Maria Beltrami of Milford, Mass., and three sisters living in Austria.

The deceased was born in Austria 47 years ago and came to America several years ago. Prior to his illness he was employed by manufacturers in both Barre and Montpelier. He was a member of the granitecutters' union.

The funeral will probably be held at the house Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock with interment in Hope cemetery.

BURIAL HELD IN BARRE.

Funeral of Mrs. Anne Eliza Banister Was Held Yesterday Afternoon.

The funeral of Mrs. Anne Eliza (Racon) Banister, whose body, following her death in Potsdam, N. Y., July 23, was brought to Barre, was held at the home of O. J. Dodge on Elm street Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Rev. J. B. Reardon, pastor of the Universalist church, officiating. The bearers were: Fayette T. Cutler, C. C. Varney, George Beckley and Joseph Taft. Interment was made in the family lot at Elmwood cemetery.

COLLEGE BOOKSELLER DEAD.

Edward Storr, Well Known by Dartmouth Students, Had a Shock.

Hanover, N. H., July 27.—Edward Storr, for 35 years proprietor of the bookstore patronized by Dartmouth students, died to-day as a result of a shock.

Topsham in Hand Found
Guilty—Jury in Orange
County Court of Complicity
In the Death of His Em-
ployer, Joseph Felch, and
He Hears the Verdict
Quite CalmlyFELCH'S WIDOW YET
TO BE TRIED IN CASE

Felch Was Shot In His Sugar House On the Night of April 22, 1916, and Shortly Afterwards His Hired Man and Then Mrs. Felch Were Arrested—Trial of Williams Has Lasted Ten Days

Chelsea, July 27.—For his part in the brutal slaying of Joseph Felch, a Topsham farmer, on the night of April 22, 1916, Otis Williams was to-day in Orange county court found guilty of murder in the second degree. Williams was employed by Felch as a farmhand. Another trial growing out of the death of Felch is to be held a few months later, it is expected, when the slain man's wife, Anna Felch, will be brought before the bar of justice, having been jointly indicted with Williams for murder. Counsel for Williams will undoubtedly take the case to supreme court on exceptions, having indicated such a purpose by taking exceptions to Judge Stanton's charge.

The penalty for second degree murder is life imprisonment. When Williams was brought into the court room this morning in response to the summons after word came the jury was ready to report, he displayed little trace of anxiety although his countenance was considerably paler than usual. Other than that he did not show any indication of the tension that might have been working in his mind as the jury was polled. Throughout the trial he had maintained a somewhat stolid attitude, although he seemed to follow the testimony and the arguments closely. When the verdict of guilty of murder in the second degree was announced he apparently was unmoved. Judge Stanton did not impose sentence.

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Story of the Crime. On the night of April 22 Joseph Felch, a well-to-do farmer, left his home in Waits River sometime after the supper hour and went to the sugarhouse to holl the season's last run of sap. Before leaving the house, he announced his purpose to return home at midnight. In the morning of Easter day, the Sunday following, alarm was felt over the farmer's non-appearance and Mrs. Felch, her seven-year-old daughter, Bernice, and the hired girl, Josephine Pero, set out for the sugarhouse. There they discovered the body of Felch lying in his own blood, a rifle under the foot. When the women spread the alarm, the town health officer was called. Because of the peculiar juxtaposition of the body and the rifle, he scouted the theory of suicide and his suspicion of foul play was shared when State's Attorney Frank S. Williams of Bradford, Dr. W. R. Rowland of Corinth and others arrived.

Dr. B. H. Stone, the state pathologist, and Dr. C. F. Whitney of the state department, arrived from Burlington on the following Monday and an autopsy was held in the schoolhouse hall. Three days later Felch's remains were buried and while the funeral was in progress, Otis Williams, a 21-year-old farmhand, was arrested. Statements said to have been made by the accused led to the implication of Mrs. Felch and she, too, was taken in custody a short time afterward. The grand jury in session at the state seat early in June found true bills against the pair and indictments charging Williams and Mrs. Felch jointly with the murder of Felch were returned. Attorney General H. G. Barber of Bradford assisted State's Attorney Williams in the investigation and later in the prosecution. Early in the present term of Orange county court the state assigned as counsel for the respondents, William David Conant of Bradford and Stanley C. Wilson of Chelsea.